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ABSTRACT

This annual report summarizes activities of the Alabama Public Library Service (APLS) for the fiscal year 1995. The APLS is charged with improving library services throughout the state to ensure that all citizens have access to quality library and information services. During fiscal year 1995, major building renovations were completed with the redesign and improved physical access to all public and staff areas. The first phase of a comprehensive electronic network was implemented, linking all technology-based services into one easily accessible system, and APLS provided the leadership for the first statewide conference on "Building the Alabama Information Highway." Circulation and reference statistics are provided for Library Operations and the Division for the Blind and Physically Handicapped (BPH). "Totally Terrific Time Treks," the 1995 summer program for elementary-aged children, attracted 45,900 children. Library development staff took part in the "Children's Book Review Program," which received books from 36 publishers; the "Great Panamanian Book Lift," in which the U.S. Army gave more than 40,000 books to Alabama libraries; continuing education workshops; and visits to public libraries. APLS funding was distributed as follows: $4,641,682 in state aid to libraries; $2,803,988 for agency operations; $1,162,618 in federal grants; and $684,450 for federal agency operations. State aid totals for 1995 are provided and listed alphabetically by library name. (SWC)

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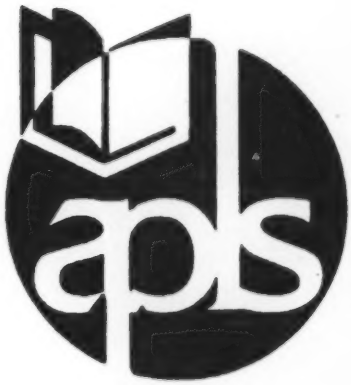
Alabama Public Library Service 1995

Annual Report



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1995 Annual Report

Alabama Public Library Service

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Alabama Public Library Service

***Patricia L. Harris,* Director**

Executive Board

District One	Martha Hosey	Gulf Shores
District Two	Janice Franklin	Montgomery
District Three	Bragg Comer II	Sylacauga
District Four	Bobby Junkins	Gadsden
District Five	Sandra Rhodes	Huntsville
District Six	Dianne Kendrick	Birmingham
District Seven	William T. Harrison	Columbiana

Division Directors

Library Development	Fred Neighbors
Library Operations	Alice Stephens
Support Services	Don Hart
Business Office	Jim Dismukes
Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped	Fara Zaleski

This publication is made possible in part by funds from the Library Services and Constuction Act.

From The Director

On behalf of the staff of the Alabama Public Library Service, I am pleased to present to you the Fiscal Year 1995 Annual Report.

This was an extraordinary year, with multiple major projects either beginning or being completed. Commencing in FY 1994, APLS began the transformation of its physical environment and services to provide a solid foundation for the next century. During FY 1995, major building renovations were completed with the redesign and improved physical access to all public and staff areas. In addition to the physical redesign of the facilities, the first phase of a comprehensive electronic network was implemented, linking all technology-based services into one easily accessible system. Phase Two will be completed in FY 1996 with the installation and accessibility of a fully integrated automated library system. In preparing this new foundation for the future, APLS provided the leadership for the first statewide conference on Building the Alabama Information Highway.

I dedicate this year's annual report to the staff of the Alabama Public Library Service. While extensive changes were being implemented, the staff continued to provide the highest quality of library and information resources and services to the citizens of Alabama. This is a testimony to their commitment and I thank each of them as we continue this progress.

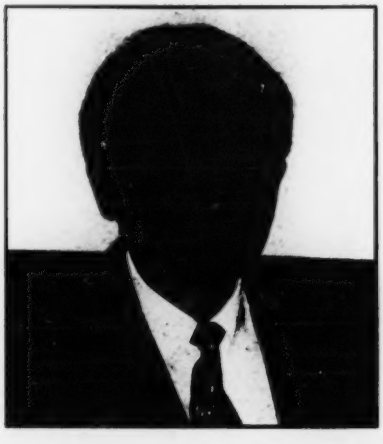
Patricia L. Harris

From The Executive Board Chairman

On behalf of the Executive Board, I am pleased to share the progress of the Alabama Public Library Service for FY 1995. APLS fulfills its statutory charge to provide library and information resources and services to meet the needs of the citizens of Alabama by providing direct services, supporting resource sharing, educational opportunities for librarians and trustees and supporting and advocating for quality local public libraries.

The APLS Executive Board is committed to its mission that all Alabamians will have access to quality library and information resources and services to meet their educational, informational and recreational needs.

Bragg Comer II



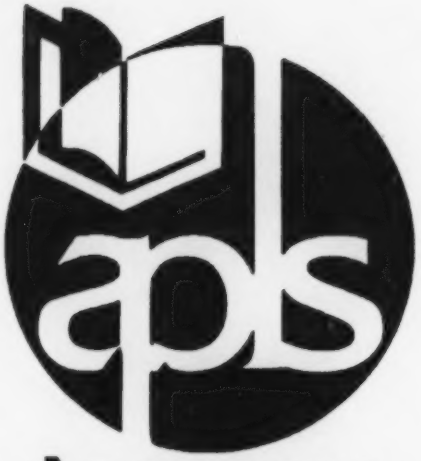
The Alabama Public Library Service serves the information needs of Alabama public libraries.

The agency was created in 1939 when the State Legislature created the Public Library Service as a separate division of the Department of Archives and History. Twenty years later, the Legislature created APLS as a separate state agency.

In 1978, the Division for the Blind and Physically Handicapped from Talladega moved to APLS as a new division.

As a state agency, APLS is charged with improving library services throughout the state to ensure that all citizens have access to quality library and information services.

The agency is responsible for receiving and administering federal and state funds for the more than 200 public libraries in Alabama.



ALABAMA
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Library Operations

It was a hectic year for Library Operations with disruptions and difficulties in meeting day-to-day responsibilities because of the renovations.

In spite of areas moving, reshelving and having to shutdown due to construction, Library Operations was able to continue its services to libraries and walk-in patrons. Staff maintained reference services to libraries and state employees with the Reference area closed for only a few weeks; met audiovisual booking commitments; expended almost twice as much for books as in any previous year; learned to work with Microsoft Office software; cataloged at approximately the same level as during the previous year; continued to develop and publish statewide databases; provided training opportunities for librarians in the state; developed an Invitation to Bid and analyzed responses for an integrated library system; and planned for and conducted a statewide conference on information policy.

Fiscal year 1995 marked the first year of exclusive video circulation for the division. The increase in video usage validated the decision to discontinue 16mm film circulation. The agency's 16mm film collection was distributed to 75 public libraries and six state agencies.

Video circulation was up by 64 percent with times shown up by 78 percent. Total audience was up by 104,335 viewers, or 87 percent.

In the Reference department, the recorded reference request fill rate from librarians and state employees who phoned in was 99 percent for the second straight year.

Despite the disruptions, reference experienced only a five percent drop in the overall request level from the previous year.

The division ordered 7,336 titles and received 10,209 volumes during the year. Net holdings for the division include 17,531 federal documents and 155,714 non-government document volumes.

During the year, 227 registered borrowers were added, with 14,817 circulations from APLS to libraries and 13,393 circulations to state employees. The total number of requests received in this department, including specific title requests, reference requests and photocopy requests, was 24,180.

Halls overflowed with materials moved from area to area as the renovations continued through much of the year.

Speaker Jennings Bryant, right, talks with an attendee at the ***Building the Information Highway -- Alabama's Conference on Information Access and Services*** *co-sponsored by APLS.*

Division for the Blind and Physically Handicapped

Renovation within BPH was completed with the addition of new carpet, wallpaper, lobby furniture and automatic doors. Remaining areas of the warehouse, workroom and audio duplication were repainted and papered. The rearrangment of office areas and lightened color scheme made a more pleasing working environment.

The top priority remained daily circulation with a 24-hour turnaround time.

BPH staff learned how to use the new LAN system and completed basic software tutorials. The division also worked extremely hard with low vision and blind staff members to insure their access into the BPH circulation system.

Nineteen additional carriages of compact shelving were added to complete the existing tracked area.

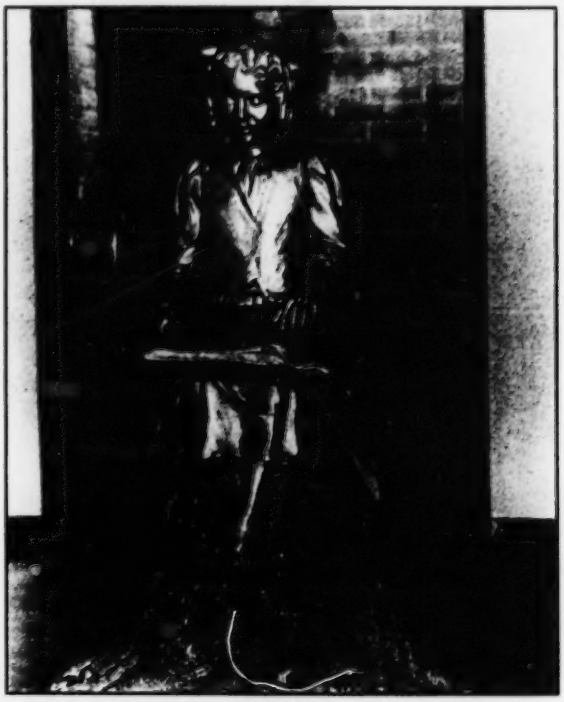
For FY 95, BPH circulated 139,965 special format titles to its patrons: 7,533 disc, 129,106 cassette and 3,326 braille.

BPH began serving 894 new members for an increase of 100 from the previous year. There were 598 readers dropped from services due to cancellations, deaths or transfers.There were 3,516 individual patrons and 109 institutions using services through the regional office. Staff handled 159 reference/referral questions. BPH requested 73 interlibrary loan titles for its patrons and loaned out 1,823 ILLs for patrons at the subregional libraries. Walk-in patronage averaged 44 visits per month, usually for book or machine exchanges.

Special recording projects included the new Project OASIS Peer Manual, several items for the Department of Education/Special Education Services, and *WhAT'S LINE*. Brailled items included handouts for the Department of Archives and History, *WhAT'S LINE* and Consumer Advisory items.

Over the year, 24 active volunteers donated 1,681 hours of service to the division.

More than 780 children from 12 schools learned of the library's services by visiting with Regional staff.



A statue of Alabama native Helen Keller greets all who enter the Regional Library for the Blind and Physically Handicapped.

Library Development

Totally Terrific Time Treks was the1995 Summer Library Program for elementary-aged children. Librarians across the state registered 45,900 children and presented 2,965 individual programs. During the program, Alabama youngsters read 730,093 books. Attendance at programs was 124,518. At the end of the program, 28,174 certificates were presented to participants.

The **Children's Book Review Program** received books from 36 publishers during the year. Thirty-one Alabama libraries participated in the program and librarians reviewed 1,760 children's and young adult books. The books were added to the library collections after the reviews were completed.

Library development staff attended 11 continuing education workshops. The staff visited 36 public libraries during the year. Long range planning and establishment of Friends of the Library groups were primary subjects of interest to libraries.

The **Great Panamanian Book Lift** closed the major activities of the year as the United States Army gave more than 40,000 books to Alabama libraries. Collections from three libraries in the Canal Zone were transferred to the Old North Branch Library in Birmingham by the Alabama National Guard. In cooperation with the Birmingham Public Library staff, APLS Library Development staff sorted and distributed the books during September.

Library Development staff was involved with many projects during the year, including the Great Panamanian Book Lift, shown here.

An Army caravan unloaded more than 40,000 books, computers and furniture from Panama for use in Alabama's public libraries. In the bottom photo, Birmingham Public Library employees unloaded materials. APLS staff later sorted and distributed the items to public libraries across the state.

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Support Services

This division was responsible for installing the local area network throughout the agency. The division installed a personal computer at each workstation providing access to files, databases and modems that each person required to perform his duties.

The first phase of the LAN system involved the receipt and installation of the file server, communications server and 55 personal computers. All staff were trained on Windows and word processing. OCLC was installed on the local area network. Now librarians performing interlibrary loan or cataloging procedures are able to access OCLC from their desktop computer.

A network version of the LIBRIS acquisition system allowing simultaneous access by all acquisition staff was installed.

A CD-ROM system was added to the network. The CD-ROM system allows staff access to up to 56 CD-ROM drives at their desk. Installation of additional databases will continue during the next fiscal year.

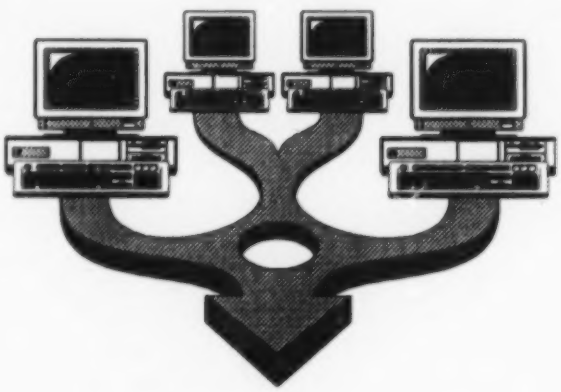
A purchase order was issued for an integrated library system, replacing the current CLSI circulation system. The new system will provde an on-line public access catalog, a gateway to other systems and databases, full marc record, authority control and OCLC interface. This system is to be operational by mid-1996.

Progress was made in implementing in-house electronic mail, scheduling and internet access. Efforts to provide these tools to all staff will continue into the next fiscal year.

The department continued to produce the agency's quarterly publications *Cottonboll* and *WhAT'S LINE* as well as the biweekly *APLSauce*.

Support Services produced the annual report, library directory and statistical report as well as summer library program materials. *The Alabama Long-Range Program for Library Development 1994-98* and the *Federal Library Programs in Alabama 1994* were produced.

The division produced registration materials and programs for the information conference as well as AV video catalogs and other materials as needed by the agency.



Finances

In 1995, the APLS Executive Board approved grants of Library Services and Construction Act (LSCA) funds under Title I, Title II and Title III to public libraries, library systems and state agencies.

For FY 1995, the board approved $1,182,474 in LSCA grants.

A total of $4,641,682 or $1.12 per capita was awarded in State Aid for FY 95. Below is a breakdown of state aid totals.

In FY 1995, APLS received $7,445,670 from the state and $1,847,068 from the federal government.

During FY 1995, APLS made the following distributions: State Aid to Libraries -- $4,641,682; Agency Operations -- $2,803,988; Federal - Grants -- $1,162,618; and Federal - Agency Operations -- $684,450.

$$

State Aid Totals for 1995

Libraries received the following amounts of State Aid for FY 1995 based on $1.12 per capita.

AKRON PUBLIC LIBRARY	$ 506
ANNISTON-CALHOUN PUBLIC LIB.	121,138
ARITON PUBLIC LIBRARY	818
AUTAUGA-PRATTVILLE	41,039
B.B.COMER MEMORIAL LIBRARY	14,719
BALDWIN COUNTY PUBLIC	110,082
BARBOUR CO. LIB. COOPERATIVE	28,411
BAYOU LA BATRE	2,661
BIRMINGHAM AREA LIB. SERVICE	744,988
BRENT-CENTREVILLE PUBLIC LIB.	19,319
CARL ELLIOTT REGIONAL	102,071
CHEAHA REGIONAL	132,833
CHEROKEE PUBLIC LIBRARY	6,487
CHICKASAW	7,424
CHILTON-CLANTON PUBLIC	37,366
CHOCTAW COUNTY	18,149
CITRONELLE	4,449
CLARKE COUNTY COOPERATIVE	31,189
CROSS TRAILS REGIONAL	130,013
CULLMAN COUNTY	78,452
DALEVILLE PUBLIC LIBRARY	7,940
DEKALB COUNTY	62,892
ESCAMBIA COUNTY COOPERATIVE	40519
EVERGREEN-CONECUH COUNTY	15,870
FAYETTE COUNTY MEMORIAL	20,210
FLORENCE-LAUDERDALE PUB. LIB.	92,006
FOLEY PUBLIC LIBRARY	6,607
GADSDEN-ETOWAH COUNTY	111,944
GREENE COUNTY-EUTAW	11,484
GREENVILLE-BUTLER COUNTY	24,416
H. GRADY BRADSHAW-CHAMBERS CO	41,455
HALE COUNTY-GREENSBORO	3,455
HARRISON REGIONAL LIB. SYSTEM	115,994
HAYNEVILLE/LOWNDES LIB. SYSTEM	$ 13,431
HELEN KELLER PUBLIC LIBRARY	14,229
HENRY CO. LIBRARY AUTHORITY	17,504
HORSESHOE BEND REGIONAL	215,948
HOUSTON-LOVE MEMORIAL	93,930
HUNTSVILLE-MADISON COUNTY	282,813
LEIGHTON PUBLIC LIBRARY	5,815
MACON CO-TUSKEGEE PUBLIC	27,465
MARENGO LIBRARY SYSTEM	26,122
MARSHALL COUNTY COOPERATIVE	83,064
MARY BERRY BROWN MEM. LIBRARY	2,200
MOBILE PUBLIC	379,229
MONROE COUNTY	26,997
MONTGOMERY CITY-COUNTY	241,831
MOUNDVILLE PUBLIC	1,656
MUSCLE SHOALS PUBLIC LIBRARY	15,719
NEWTON PUBLIC LIBRARY	2,633
NORTHWEST REGIONAL	83,016
ONEONTA PUBLIC LIBRARY	45,335
OZARK-DALE CO.PUB.LIBRARY,INC.	42,246
PERRY COUNTY LIBRARY DEV.	13,765
PHENIX CITY-RUSSELL COUNTY	55,745
PICKENS COUNTY	23,522
PIKE CO. LIBRARY COOPERATIVE	31,560
PRICHARD	38,025
ROBERTSDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY	2,934
SATSUMA PUBLIC LIBRARY	6,028
SCOTTSBORO PUBLIC-JACKSON CO.	55,127
SELMA-DALLAS COUNTY PUBLIC LIB.	54,036
SHEFFIELD PUBLIC LIBRARY	16,723
ST. CLAIR COUNTY	59,368
SUMTER COUNTY	18,231
TALLADEGA PUBLIC LIBRARY	21,448
TUSCALOOSA PUBLIC	172,837
UNION SPRINGS PUBLIC LIBRARY	12,362
WASHINGTON COUNTY	18,985
WHEELER BASIN REGIONAL	216,664
WHITE HALL PUBLIC LIBRARY	855
WILCOX COUNTY	15,378